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Austin Price / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

★ Site of USC's
women's basketball
NCAA Tournament 1st &
2nd round games

Confederate flag prevents USC from hosting NCAA Tournament

Isabelle Khurshudyan
IKHURSHUDYAN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

The Confederate flag is not part of Dawn Staley's history, but it's become a major issue in her present.

The South Carolina women's basketball coach will never play in Columbia during the NCAA Tournament as long as the flag hangs atop a 30-foot pole in front of the State House. Since 2001, the NCAA has banned the state of South Carolina from hosting postseason events whose sites are predetermined.

Because Columbia is not a host, the Gamecocks will travel 1,620 miles to Boulder, Colo., Saturday for their first-round matchup with South Dakota State, despite being the best seed among the four teams assigned to Boulder.

Just as Staley's team loses a competitive advantage, the state misses out on the millions in economic impact that would come with hosting men's NCAA Tournament games. Even as the national economy has sagged in recent years, cities similar to Columbia's size have enjoyed financial benefits from hosting.

"I understand the history here in South Carolina," Staley said. "It's not my history, but it's somebody's history. I think it prevents us and it prevents me from doing my job in a place that I choose to call

home. If it creates an opportunity for us not to have (an NCAA Tournament game at home), then yes, I'm offended."

'Man, that sucks'

Former USC point guard La'Keisha Sutton remembers thinking it was weird South Carolina still flew the Confederate flag prominently, but the New Jersey native had a more animated reaction after hearing USC could not host because of it.

"My feeling was like, 'Man, that sucks,'" Sutton said. "We wanted to play in the South. Columbia has great support, but they can't come see us play for what we worked so hard for during the season because of the Confederate flag."

Women's basketball teams that make the NCAA



Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

In the spring of 2000, legislation was passed to remove the Confederate battle flag from the State House dome.

Tournament and were previously awarded a host site are almost always placed at that site. The Gamecocks traveled to West Lafayette, Ind., last season for their first NCAA Tournament trip under Staley.

Were Columbia eligible to host first- and second-round games, it wouldn't be guaranteed to get them. But with the \$64 million, 18,000-seat Colonial Life Arena, a nearby airport and ample hotel accommodations, Columbia would have been a strong candidate.

The NCAA highly values all three of those factors when picking host sites, said Old Dominion Athletics Director Wood Selig, whose school hosted first- and second-round games last year and will host a Sweet 16 and Elite Eight site this year. If USC makes the Sweet 16, it would play at ODU.

"Our philosophy at ODU is we want to host as many NCAA championship events as we possibly can because it's good for our teams if they are fortunate enough to be participating and able to play on campus," Selig said. "It's great for our fans who have been following the team or the sport all year long. We feel it's good for our community because it brings a lot of economic impact to the area that would not otherwise occur."

Selig said the NCAA gets the "lion's share" of ticket revenue from host sites, though ODU usually breaks even or makes a small profit from hosting. But he doesn't mind the NCAA taking a big cut from tickets because hosting allows ODU to enjoy visibility on a national stage.

Though USC's women's basketball team is most directly disadvantaged by the NCAA's policy, cities in South Carolina suffer most from not being able

FLAG ● 2

Executive officers, senators inaugurated

Mizzell: 'It's important that we go beyond Student Government'

Amanda Coyne & Sarah Ellis
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Student Body President Chase Mizzell accepted his new position with his trademark humility and campaign catchphrase.

Saying it would be impossible for him to succeed in his term without Treasurer Haley Guyton, Vice President Ryan Bailey and the other student leaders around him, Mizzell vowed that his

administration's reach would go far beyond the walls of the student senate chambers.

"It's important to me that we go beyond Student Government ... because, simply put, being part of something great is much more than a role," Mizzell said at the Student Government inauguration ceremony.

Mizzell, Guyton, Bailey and 45 student senators were sworn into their new roles as late afternoon sunlight streamed into Rutledge Chapel Wednesday.

The three new executive officers got

a chance to lay out their plans for the coming year as peers and predecessors looked on. Outgoing Student Body President Kenny Tracy and outgoing Treasurer Coy Gibson looked on as Mizzell and Guyton took over their respective roles. Mizzell, who served as student body vice president in the last Student Government term, got to pass the torch on to Bailey.

Guyton gave a heartfelt thanks to her family, who financed her campaign for treasurer. When her eyes started to well up, she quipped that she didn't think she'd get emotional and was unprepared,

not wearing waterproof mascara.

The new vice president said he didn't come to USC intending to fill his new role.

"I did, however, arrive with the intention of trying to make a difference for every student if at all possible, and that's where Student Government came in for me," Bailey said.

The outgoing chair of the senate Safety and Transportation Committee said it was his work in the committee that inspired him to seek executive

SG ● 2

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MIX

INSIDE

▲▲▲

Music Festivals

All the tips and tricks you'll need to make the most out of your summer musical festival experience.

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VIEWPOINTS

Dangerous drones

Columnist Ross Abbott explains how Obama's drone policy interferes with the rights of Americans.

See page 5

SPORTS

Postseason begins

The USC women's basketball team will open NCAA Tournament play in Boulder, Colo., Saturday.

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In Brief.

Newberry students arrested for bomb threat

Two Newberry High School students have been charged with phoning in a bomb threat at their school on Monday, WIS reports.

Tuesday afternoon, 17-year-old Daisha Kibler and a 16-year-old were taken into custody, and the Sheriff's Office says more arrests are possible.

The school received a bomb threat around 10:54 a.m. Monday. First responders, bomb searching experts and district officials were called to the school just before noon.

A search of the school did not reveal any evidence of danger, according to sheriff's deputies. While officers said the threat didn't appear to be substantiated, they acted with caution in order to ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff.

Once the school was deemed all clear, it was reopened around 1:30 p.m., about two hours after it was evacuated.

— Compiled by Amanda Coyne, Assistant News Editor

State Senate passes open gun carry bill

South Carolina gun owners may soon be able to carry their weapons in public without a concealed weapons permit, the Associated Press reports.

A Senate panel has passed a bill that would allow open gun carrying in the Palmetto State.

Supporters of the bill plan to work on it some more before it goes before the Senate Judiciary Committee in April. They said they want to make sure the bill won't have any loopholes.

Gun supporters who attended the hearing on the bill said having a concealed weapons permit is unnecessary, since the Constitution gives Americans the right to bear arms.

This is the latest in a few gun measures in the South Carolina State House this legislative term. An earlier bill was proposed, allowing concealed weapons permit holders to bring their guns to places that serve alcohol.

— Compiled by Amanda Coyne, Assistant News Editor

Trader Joe's to open on Forest Drive Friday

Local foodies will soon have a tough decision to make: which hip grocery store chain to patronize.

Columbia's first Trader Joe's store is set to open Friday at 4502 Forest Drive and offers similar fare to Whole Foods, which recently opened its first Columbia location on Cross Hill Road. Both offer organic, fair trade and specialty foods in addition to traditional grocery options.

Trader Joe's is considered a cheaper alternative to Whole Foods. The store keeps prices down by getting its products straight from vendors and packing the shelves with store-brand items. The Columbia "store captain" told The State that about 80 percent of the grocery chain's items are Trader Joe's brand.

The store-brand foods also uphold Trader Joe's healthy image. None have MSG, artificial trans-fats, genetically modified ingredients or artificial colors, flavors or preservatives, according to The State.

— Compiled by Amanda Coyne, Assistant News Editor

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to host — especially for the men's basketball tournament, which tends to generate more money for local businesses than the women's tournament.

A South Carolina city hasn't hosted men's or women's tournament games since 2005, when Greenville held the Southeastern Conference women's basketball tournament, because Atlanta backed out late. Greenville hosted men's first- and second-round games in 2002, because the site was determined before the NCAA's ban started.

'I kind of always shake my head'

Since 2002, Raleigh, Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Greensboro have hosted a combined nine times for the men's tournament.

Marion Edwards, a spokesman for the South

Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, said after the Confederate flag was removed from the State House dome in 2000, many organizations saw that as sufficient and stopped boycotting the state.

"There really hasn't been a measurable (negative) economic impact (since then)," he said.

But his department hasn't specifically tracked the flag's economic impact because it would be too challenging, he said.

Edwards said arenas in South Carolina that would be eligible to host NCAA Tournament games might book other events in mid-March, so comparing the economic impact of basketball games and other events is difficult.

But what separates an NCAA Tournament from a high-profile concert is the number of out-of-town patrons who spend

multiple days staying in hotels and eating at restaurants. A concert is a one-night event.

Mid-sized cities comparable to Columbia have seen substantial benefits from hosting men's tournament games.

When Greensboro hosted last year's first and second rounds, the area enjoyed a \$14.5 million economic impact from hotels, restaurants and shopping, according to the Greensboro Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Dayton, Ohio, made \$4 million from hosting last year's First Four play-in games, according to its convention and visitors bureau. The city "conservatively" projects \$8 million from this year's First Four and first and second rounds, said the bureau's CEO Jacquelyn Powell.

She said the event is among the city's most economically impactful.

Albuquerque, N.M., had first- and second-round games last year and received \$801,000 just from hotel rooms and meals for players, coaches, officials and NCAA staff, according to its convention and visitors bureau. That doesn't count fans' spending in the community.

At least one Columbia business owner would love to make money off tournament games.

Brian Glynn, owner of the Five Points restaurant and bar The Village Idiot, said he makes 15 to 25 percent more money when USC hosts a baseball regional. He caters for visiting basketball teams during the season, so the state's inability to host events hits him in the wallet.

Glynn said he hasn't tried to partner with other local business owners to petition legislators for removal of the flag.

"Every year when the men's NCAA Tournament comes around and you look at these regional sites, I kind of always shake my head," Glynn said. "Look at that building we have there that is built perfectly for something like that. Every couple years, we could have a men's or a women's regional, but we never will. It's laughable."

'It's a black eye on the state'

The Confederacy recognized three national flags, and the one at the Confederate memorial on the State House grounds is the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag.

Though that version of the flag was not a political symbol for the Confederacy, South Carolina placed it in a

position of prominence in 1962, on the State House dome with the United States flag and the South Carolina flag. For much of the time since, it has been a hotly debated topic.

It was originally hung to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Civil War, but it remained there during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. In October 1999, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People unanimously approved a tourism boycott on the state until it stopped flying the flag atop the State House. The move prompted other groups to host their conventions elsewhere.

On April 12, 2000, the state Senate voted, 36-7, for a compromise on the issue. The flag was removed from the dome and the two legislative chambers. A smaller version was hung on the pole next to the Confederate memorial — front and center on Gervais Street.

South Carolina Supreme Court Justice Kaye Hearn said the flag is too high and prominently displayed. A godmother of two black children, she said the flag's position doesn't represent the state's current, more progressive

SG ● Cont. from 1

office.

"Working with some of the most pertinent issues on campus quickly made me realize that this position was just so much bigger than itself," Bailey said. "While working with the committee, we saw room for improvement, we saw room for growth and we saw room for possibilities. And I still see those for Student Government and for Carolina as well."

Mizzell said he took pride in watching Bailey and Guyton take their oaths of office. He used his inaugural address to praise the many aspects of USC he said were "something great," as well as to lay out his plans for the coming year.

"I vow that my administration, with the help of my team, my senate, my cabinet, will be contribute — and that's the key word — will not lead, but will contribute to something great," Mizzell said. "We will focus and work on student safety. We will work on our influence throughout the world of higher education as an investor. We will focus on improving every single student's quality of life while they're here at Carolina."

And Mizzell, whose passion is the passion of others, left his audience with a challenge.

"I challenge each of us to be passionate, not only in this next year, but throughout life," he said. "To look for opportunities to change the world and affect the people that know you, and to relentlessly pursue them, regardless of obstacle or trial."

FLAG ● 3

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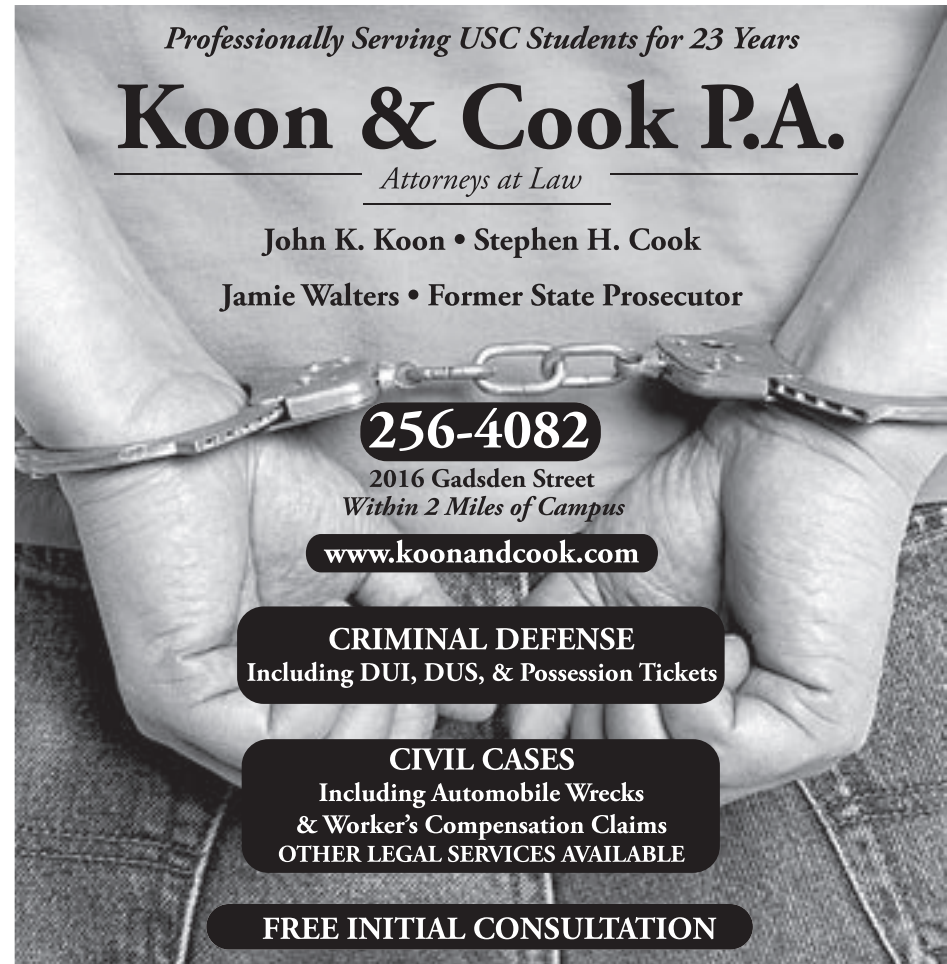
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views. “It’s a black eye on the state, no pun intended,” she said.

The NAACP opposed the compromise to hang the flag in front of the State House and continued its boycott because it said the site is still too prominent.

“I believe in respecting all human beings,” said Lonnie Randolph, South Carolina NAACP president. “For [state legislators] to have the attitude that it’s in the past, I will give you a William Faulkner quotation that should be South Carolina’s motto. William Faulkner said, ‘The past is never dead. It’s not even the past.’ That’s South Carolina.”

At the prodding of the NAACP and Black Coaches and Administrators, the NCAA adopted the Confederate Battle Flag Policy in 2001, which said the NCAA would “not award future predetermined sites in states where the Confederate battle flag continues to have a prominent presence.” Mississippi is the only other state that falls under the policy.

The original policy had a two-year shelf life, but in 2004 the NCAA said it would continue the ban indefinitely on South Carolina hosting because the flag continued to fly.

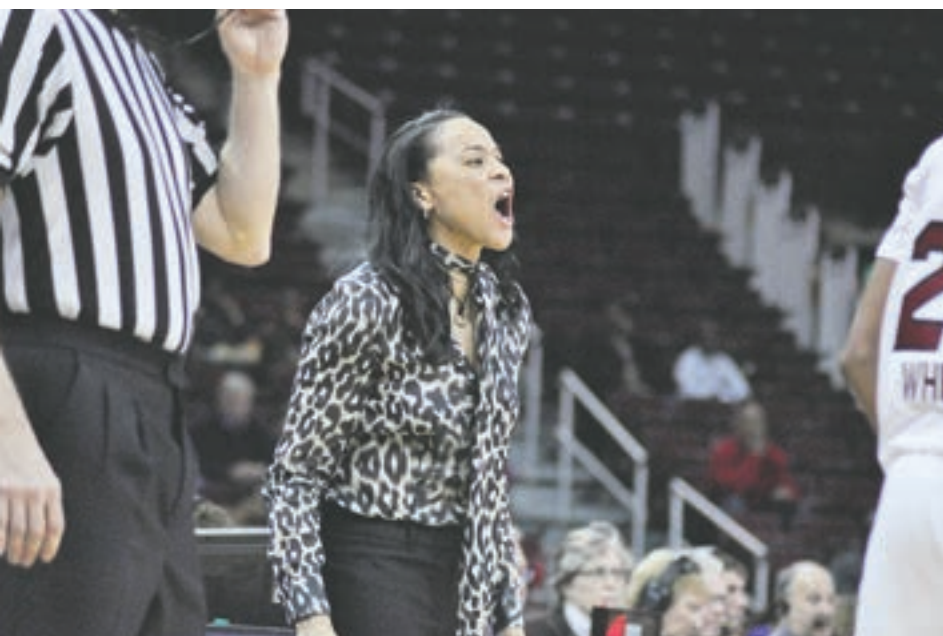
In 2009, the ACC followed the NCAA’s lead. Its 2011–13 baseball tournaments were scheduled for Myrtle Beach, but the league decided to move them to North Carolina cities because of the flag.

In 2006, the BCA pushed the NCAA to expand its ban to disallowing football and baseball teams from hosting championship events. The request was denied, so South Carolina colleges can host baseball regionals and Football Championship Subdivision playoff games, because those sports don’t use predetermined hosting sites, like men’s and women’s basketball do. Host sites for baseball and the FCS are determined after the season. The 2013 women’s basketball host sites were announced last February.

The NCAA declined to comment beyond its written policy.

Floyd Keith, former director of the BCA, said the NCAA did not give a reason for why the ban was not extended to baseball and FCS playoffs, the NCAA’s two most prominent early-round postseason events along with men’s and women’s basketball.

“We don’t think a Confederate flag has any place in our country, and the things that stood for are offensive to us and offensive to people of color,” Keith said. “I think our support with the NCAA and the NAACP is something that would



Austin Price / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Women’s basketball coach Dawn Staley said it offends her USC does not have an opportunity to be a host site for the NCAA Tournament. USC is a four-seed this season.

be hard for us not to do. Until that is removed, our stance remains the same.”

For Mark Simpson, commander of South Carolina’s division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the flag next to the Confederate monument symbolizes a connection to his great-great grandfather, who fought in the war. All of the organization’s members have a direct family lineage to Confederate veterans.

Simpson doesn’t think the flag should be associated with slavery because he said most Confederate soldiers didn’t own slaves. He said his organization will do everything it can to keep the flag on public display.

“We make a connection to these people, people we never knew and never met,” Simpson said. “Somehow, and I really don’t know how to explain it, when you stand on the grave of a man whose blood literally, by DNA, runs through your veins, you stand there with a tear in your eye and a soft spot in your heart saying, ‘This was my grandfather, and I will do all I can to commemorate his memory as a decent American and a brave South Carolinian.’”

‘Crying shame’

Frank Martin said he is proud to be Staley’s colleague, proud to watch her team practice and proud to watch her coach in games.

USC’s first-year men’s basketball coach would love Columbia to see tournament games, even though men’s teams can’t play in their own buildings. Like Staley, whose mother is black, Martin has his own perspective on the flag. His mother was born in Cuba, and his wife is black.

“It’s hard for me to formulate an opinion when it’s something I’ve never

had to deal with,” Martin said. “I’m a minority, and I’m married to a minority, so I’m not about the things that used to happen. I live in the community now, and I don’t see (racial) negativity. I see a lot of positivity in that community, and that’s what makes me so happy to be a part of it.”

Martin said it’s a “crying shame” Staley’s team can’t play at home, after turning a floundering program into an NCAA tournament regular.

“We are the state university, and she’s done her part to build her program, so you’d like to think that she’d be afforded every opportunity that every other university around the country gets to be able to move her team forward and gain every possible advantage you can gain,” Martin said. “There’s nothing better than playing at home.”

As a former coach who enjoyed the benefits of playing at home in the postseason, USC Athletics Director Ray Tanner said he felt it was a competitive advantage for his baseball team to host regionals and super regionals. But he declined to offer his thoughts on the flag.

“I’m not going to enter into the flag controversy, per se,” Tanner said. “I don’t want to comment on the pros and the cons of the entire situation, but I’ll just speak to what Coach Staley is going through right now. It would have been great if we were a host site instead of having to go on the road with a pretty strong women’s basketball team.”

USC football coach Steve Spurrier has been more outspoken. In 2007, he said the state should get rid of the “damn Confederate flag.” Those comments resulted in Spurrier receiving death threats, Randolph said.

“I have never met Coach Spurrier, but he took a very bold stand,” Randolph said. “I applaud him for doing so.”

Spurrier downplayed the reaction he received. He stands by his comments and said the flag is “detrimental” to USC sports.

“I decided to express my opinion,” Spurrier said. “I felt like, at that time, I should. Our state of South Carolina would be better off without the flag because it irritates people. If it irritates a large group of people, why do we have it up there? That’s my opinion, and I have other things to worry about than that right there. If it was up to me, we wouldn’t have it flying at the state Capitol.”

‘Wishful thinking’

At the women’s basketball party for the NCAA Tournament Selection Show, sophomore forward Aleighsa Welch talked about wanting Columbia to host before she graduates.

When told about the predetermined postseason event ban because of the Confederate flag, Welch was taken aback. “Oh, wow,” she said. “Wishful

thinking.”

Staley knew the flag was flying in a prominent place before she came to South Carolina, though she didn’t initially know about the NCAA’s ban. A natural optimist, she said she is hopeful USC will eventually host during her time at the school.

Others aren’t as optimistic, including USC President Harris Pastides, a member of the NCAA’s Executive Committee, a chief decision-making group. He doesn’t expect the flag to come down any time soon, or for the NCAA to change its stance.

“This issue comes up once a year, I believe, and there is absolutely no willingness for hosting any of those kinds of activities in any sport in this state because of the flag,” he said. “But to me, it’s certainly not an issue of fighting (the flag being up). That’s not going to prevail. That’s just the way it’s going to be in this state. When the governmental leaders of the state are willing to take up that debate again, I’ll certainly participate and have a voice in it.”

Still, Pastides isn’t shy about expressing his opinion on the flag’s impact now.

“It continues to be a barrier for economic development,” he said. “The fact that it offends people, including people in my own constituency — students, faculty and staff — it’s a concern to me. I’m told that it does (affect USC attracting students), but of course, many things do. It’s hard to measure how many applicants from other states don’t come to any school in the state because of the flag. It’s a very hard thing to assess, but I’m sure it’s there.”

Any bill to remove the flag would require a two-thirds vote in the General Assembly, according to state law. To pass most laws in the state, only a 51-percent majority is required. The two-thirds caveat was part of the compromise for the flag being moved off the State House dome.

State Senate President Pro Tempore John Courson, a Republican, declined to comment through a spokeswoman because “he feels (the flag) is an issue of the past.”

Multiple messages to Democratic state Sens. Darrell Jackson and Robert Ford were not returned.

In 2011, Gov. Nikki Haley rejected the NAACP’s push to remove the Confederate flag from State House grounds.

“Many people were uncomfortable with that (2000) compromise, but it addressed a sensitive subject in a way that South Carolina as a whole could accept,” Haley spokesman Rob Godfrey said in 2011. “We don’t expect people from outside the state to understand that dynamic, but revisiting that issue is not pat of the governor’s agenda.”

‘We should be able to host’

At USC’s Selection Show party Monday, Staley addressed fans and said she hopes they can find cheap plane tickets to Colorado. With USC being the top seed at its site, the sting of being unable to host is stronger.

“Everybody’s got an opinion on it,” Staley said. “If the NCAA feels like they don’t want to bring the tournament here because of the flag, they have every right to believe what they want to believe. Just as the people who want the flag there have every right to believe it should be there.


“Innocent people — meaning my team — don’t get an opportunity to play in postseason play where we feel like we’ve built a program here that if given an opportunity, we should be able to host.”

DG



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The Confederate flag flies next to the Confederate War Memorial at the State House.



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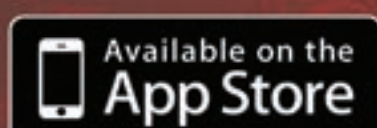
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Confederate flag hurts USC, Columbia, state

Almost 13 years have passed since the South Carolina Legislature talked definitive plans to remove the Confederate flag from the state Capitol, and we think it's time for another discussion.

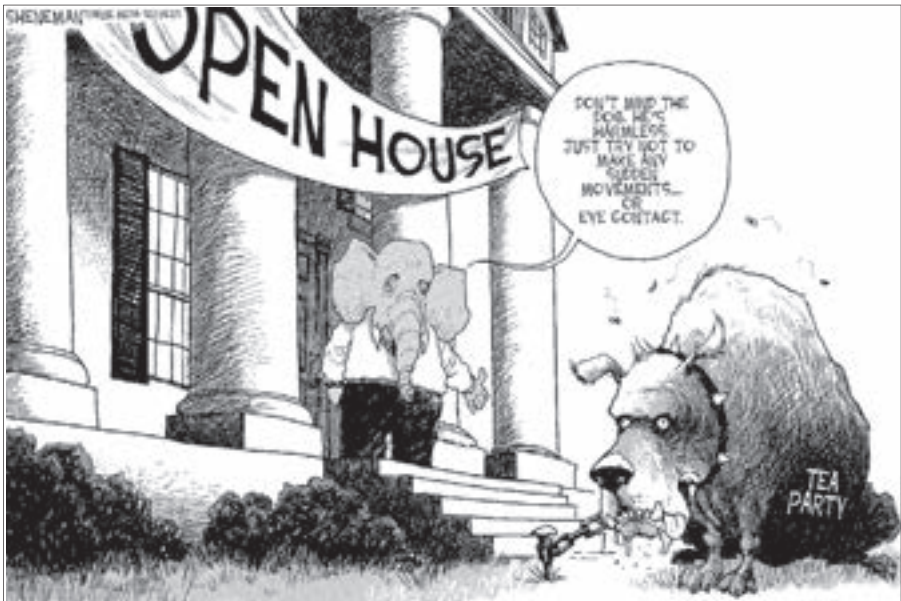
We understand this issue divides even the closest of neighbors. But regardless of what historic symbolism the flag holds for individual supporters, its presence on State House grounds sends a political statement — intentional or not — that many people still find offensive. While legislators voted to take the flag down from the building's dome in 2000, their compromise — placing it beside the Confederate memorial prominently located on Gervais Street — simply wasn't enough for some organizations.

Many continue to boycott the Palmetto State. The NAACP maintains a tourism ban on South Carolina, and the NCAA won't allow predetermined postseason tournaments to be played in the state. Legislators' unwavering ideology regarding the flag ultimately harms not only USC and the city of Columbia but the entire state of South Carolina.

These groups and organizations could present valuable opportunities and income from tourists and visitors, but our state is unwilling to make a sacrifice to welcome and respect them. Keeping the Confederate flag on our State House grounds compromises South Carolina's reputation, its struggling economy and its increasingly diverse and multicultural citizens. The people ultimately suffer from our legislature's inaction."

It's not fair our highly seeded women's basketball team is not allowed to host a home tournament game because of the NCAA ban. It's also unfair our legislators are ignoring an issue prominent citizens, including USC President Harris Pastides and football coach Steve Spurrier, vehemently disagree with.

It's 2013, and South Carolina shouldn't be the last of two holdouts on this divisive issue. We can only hope our legislators agree.



Drone policy denies due process

Americans' constitutional rights at risk of violation

In April 2010, President Barack Obama put Anwar al-Awlaki on a list of people the CIA is authorized to kill due to participation in terrorist activities. On Sept. 30, 2011 CIA drones in Yemen located al-Awlaki, a strike was ordered against him and al-Awlaki met the same fate hundreds of other terrorists have, thanks to this drone program.

But the difference between al-Awlaki and the hundreds of other successful drone strike targets is that al-Awlaki was a U.S. citizen, entitled to the same rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution as all other Americans. The Fifth Amendment to that Constitution guarantees "no person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger ... nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law."

There are two major exemptions to the right to trial by jury. The first is specifically mentioned in the above amendment: Members of our military during times of war or conflict may be punished for crimes they commit in that conflict. This allows generals to keep order by

punishing individuals who disobey orders and the like without always having to take them to full trial. (Even then, major offenses are often punished by a military tribunal, a jury of sorts.) The second exemption is when a citizen is a direct, immediate threat to the safety of others; police are authorized to use lethal force against criminals who are also threatening immediate force, by taking hostages, for example. Al-Awlaki was hiding in the mountains of Yemen, neither serving as part of the U.S. military nor threatening immediate force, so neither of these exemptions applied to his rights.

Fifth Amendment rights are essential to maintaining a free society. Otherwise, our government could punish just about anyone it wished for anything it wished at any time. Yes, al-Awlaki would have almost certainly been guilty of treason had he been brought to trial. But he wasn't. No evidence was presented to prove al-Awlaki was a terrorist. Obama played judge and jury for al-Awlaki, and his drones played executioner.

As American citizens we are all subject to the same constitutional rights. If al-Awlaki's rights didn't include a right to a trial before his execution and our rights are the same as his, does anything protect us from meeting the same fate? Sure, Obama is a moral man who would never use this power to kill someone without good reason. But then again, I'm sure the Romans thought the same about Caesar, the Russians thought the same about Lenin and the Egyptians thought the same about Gaddafi. Look how those turned out.

Retouched ad images need disclaimers

French politician's suggestion helpful

They say your 20s are about finding yourself and your own identity. But then why do so many young adults spend large amounts of that time hating themselves and their bodies?

Maybe it's because everywhere we turn magazine racks tout celebrities with unbelievable bodies, and when they're not sticking them on a pedestal, publications like the National Enquirer have headlines like "Worst bikini bodies: you won't believe who this is" with a black bar across whomever's eyes. The media has so far gone unchecked with its warped portrayal of the body, but that's hopefully about to change in France.

Valérie Boyer, a member of the French Parliament and mother of three, proposed a law that would require labeling retouched advertising images, a disclaimer similar to a "don't try this at home" tag used on shows like "Jackass" or on commercials portraying a clearly exaggerated situation.

At the moment, these unrealistic images are thrust into the mind of every person who enters a grocery store, stops at a gas station or simply drives on a major highway. Necessary protection should be in places that can influence young minds, like the warning on packs of cigarettes — something clearly stating "this body isn't real, this is a fake perception of perfection, do not starve yourself to try to achieve this."

It seems like people can either choose to isolate themselves from media criticism, or accept its place in our culture and embrace their bodies anyway. Maybe with more politicians like Boyer, those don't have to be the only options.



Emilie Dawson
Second-year public relations student

Freedom to choose child's education crucial

German family's political asylum denial affront to nation's ideals

For centuries America has been a safe haven for immigrants trying to escape persecution. Even now, in the 21st century, people come from all over the world in hopes of a better life. This is why the Romeike family came to the United States.

The Romeikes emigrated from Germany because they are evangelical Christians who wanted to homeschool their five children. But in Germany, homeschooling is illegal, so the family sought political asylum in the United States so Germany would not take away their kids for refusing to send them to the public schools.

While the family was granted asylum here in 2010, the Department of Homeland Security has recently said Germany's ban of homeschooling does not violate the Romeikes' parental rights, and the department is currently trying to deport them back to Germany since it believes there's no need for political asylum anymore. If the family were

deported the kids would be taken away from their parents upon return to Germany.

Being able to choose what kind of schooling your child receives is a basic parental right. In the United States, approximately one to two million children are homeschooled each year for a variety of reasons, but the fact is parents have that choice here. In Germany, the Romeikes did not have that choice, and they did not agree with the curriculum being taught to their children. So the family went through the process of getting visas for citizens seeking political asylum. They did everything right, but now we are trying to kick them out and send them into a situation we know will not end well.

How can the Department of Homeland Security say the right to homeschool is not a basic parental right when it's legal in the United States? It is legal because freedom is the most basic of human

rights, more specifically the freedom of choice. A parent without the freedom to choose how their child is educated has lost the freedom to raise their child the way they see fit. It has never been the government's job to tell parents how to raise their kids.

This scenario sets a disturbing precedent. If certain parental rights are not valid, then are other human rights also not valid? According to Michael Farris, founder of the Home School Legal Defense Association, the Department of Homeland Security's recent statement is "an utter repudiation of parental liberty and religious liberty."

The loss of rights never occurs all at once but rather as a gradual, methodical process. Deporting this family would send a message that parental rights are not important anymore and America does not protect those being oppressed by foreign governments. As Carl Schurz once said, "You cannot subvert your neighbor's rights without striking a dangerous blow at your own."



Matthew DeMarco
First-year journalism student

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock's Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community. All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via email to editor@dailygamecock.com. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length and include the author's name, year in

school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author's name and position.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

About The Daily Gamecock

The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Daily Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.

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CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today's edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email editor@dailygamecock.com and we will print the corrections in our next issue.



Courtesy of MCT Campus

All the tips and tricks you'll need to enhance your experience

Tyler Simpson
TSIMPSON@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Summer is rapidly approaching, and the weather is getting warmer. And with warm weather comes the opportunity to enjoy various music festivals coming to the Southeast, like Warped Tour and Carolina Rebellion, but, most importantly, Bonnaroo. They are extravagant and exciting opportunities for summer fun, as long as you avoid some of the typical pitfalls. Here are a few reasonable ways to prepare for music festivals and have a stress-free experience.

1. Get over yourself.

You're there to have your own idea of a great time and gain a more-than-memorable experience, but you will have to accept that each event comes with its own annoyances. Just face the fact that you'll have to embrace the following nuances: your personal space being violated, your standards for personal hygiene slipping a little, paying more for every bottle of water or souvenir and seeing at least one sweaty, old hippie with his shirt off.

2. Watch the sun.

Most of the concerts you'll attend this summer take place outside when the sun is blazing. This means you'll probably be really hot during the performances, especially if you decide to dance. To avoid any health

difficulties, two things you should do are drink a gallon — no, two gallons — of water in the 24 hours before the concert and wear plenty of sunscreen.

3. Chose your clothing wisely.

If there is one thing to know about summers in the South, it's that you'll be hot in the afternoon, but after the sun goes down you may be cold. So, it's best to bring a couple of layers. Also, make sure you don't have a bunch of junk in your pocket. The less random debris you have will translate to a faster turnaround time. Trust me on this: It's best you don't have any keys, wallets or lighters in your pants when you're dancing around or thrashing in a mosh pit at a rock concert.

4. Settle in.

The best and biggest festivals, like Bonnaroo, always involve camping, but put aside any ideas you have about waking to fresh greenery and the sound of birds singing. Festival camping bears no resemblance to ordinary camping, besides the fact that you'll be sleeping in a tent and sleeping bag. To make this camping trip stress free, be sure to arrive early for the best choice of pitches, especially those as far away from the portable toilets as possible.

5. Watch your drinking.

Alcohol will most likely be available for purchase at these festivals, even though it's overpriced and the lines to obtain it will be long. Because of this, attendees usually try to sneak in their own drinks combined

with a variety of clear mixers. Considering that, it's important to be cautious of those you accept alcohol from, otherwise you'll wake up in a tent that's not yours with a nasty hangover. Take it slow, and keep the head-banging on the stage rather than in your head.

6. Safely store valuables.

Of course, you'll want to take pictures and share them with your friends online. But walking around with that pricey camera is asking for a theft. It will be much smarter to take a pair of cheap disposable cameras. Don't take anything more than what you actually need, and keep anything too valuable to lose with you at all times.

7. Be considerate.

There's always going to be that guy who shoves into you unapologetically, gets up in your face when you're doing something he doesn't like or crowd surfs with his beer spilling everywhere. Plain and simple: Don't be that guy.

In addition, here are some tips on what to take and what not to take.

Do take: Cheap sunglasses, hand sanitizer, comfortable but expendable shoes, a blanket, chairs and sunscreen.

Do not take: Too much stuff, high heels (because you'll be doing a lot of standing) and pets.

DG

‘Tomb Raider’ delves into dark roots

New reboot traces beginnings of '90s gunslinging heroine

Aaron Jenkins
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Tomb Raider”
NOW IN STORES ★★★★★☆

Developer: Crystal Dynamics
Publisher: Square Enix

“Tomb Raider” is a reboot that promises to take players on a journey of Lara Croft's dark and traumatic origin story. Yes, Lara Croft, the over-the-top '90s video game character that's one part Indiana Jones, one part James Bond and all parts womanly sex appeal. From this reboot's beginning, Lara is but an overzealous young archaeologist searching for the lost Japanese country of Yamatai, when she and her exploration crew are shipwrecked on a sinister island. Lara quickly faces the looming hand of death, and in the game's visually striking and meticulously staged opening hours, she is forced into her basic fight-or-flight instincts. Her first steps walking across a teetering tree branch are timid and frightened, and her first kill — a small doe near a riverbed — is a solemn moment. As Lara hunkers down next to a crackling campfire for the first time, shivering against the frigid night air in only her tank top, it becomes apparent this is certainly not the Lara

who once fired dual Desert Eagles while doing a series of backflips. In creating a more grounded and human Lara Croft, “Tomb Raider” starts off brilliantly. However, the first time Lara is forced to kill one of the island's many deluded cultists, all of the gritty survival game promise goes out the window. The game wastes little time in trotting out the familiar “high intensity” combat one expects from a third-person shooter-style game. As the game progresses, it descends into generic action tropes. From caves to pagodas, everything — planes, cargo ships, helicopters — explodes during Lara's crazy escapades on the misty Japanese isle of horrors. It almost reaches a point where the game borders on total lunacy. This strange tone makes it difficult for players to get invested in the action or Lara's survival. Simply put, “Tomb Raider's” themes of survival are at odds with the power fantasy its AAA budget demands. Lara cries and struggles through the abuse scenes, and then during game play, she fires flaming arrows through the knees of 15 men charging at her down a hallway. She's fighting for her life one moment and savagely killing the next. But sadly, the player never gets the sense that the violence is actually affecting Lara's character in any way. She may appear to be more serious and mature on the surface of her bloodied and muddled skin, but unfortunately



Courtesy of Square Enix

Equipped with a brand new bow, Croft fights for her life on a sinister Japanese isle.



Courtesy of Square Enix

“Tomb Raider’s” graphics and game design place the player deep in the realm of Lara Croft’s world, alternating between stealth segments, combat and story line adventures.

TOMB ● Continued from 6

for her, beauty is more than skin deep.

“Tomb Raider’s” design is basically an amalgamation of other action adventure titles. In a very “Uncharted” style, “Tomb Raider’s” rickety bridges and platforms frequently explode into hundreds of particle effects as Lara falls over and over again into impending doom. Yet, for all their impressions of Naughty Dog, Crystal Dynamics rarely matches them for drama.

However, unlike the rail-driven “Uncharted” series, “Tomb Raider” occasionally opens up its map to wider, more complex environments, such that the player is given a sense of exploration

and agency in the world. These areas are cluttered with numerous collectibles and optional puzzles to solve, which provide a nice respite to break up the action. In these moments, when “Tomb Raider” breaks down its linear constraints, it becomes the most satisfying.

Even more fulfilling still are the game’s stealth segments, which manage to find a great balance between empowering the player and forcing them to plan out their movements carefully. Sadly, relatively little time is spent expanding on that game play, which could have made for a more interesting and truer survival action game. Instead, more stuff blows up and Lara jumps off a crumbling platform somewhere.

Make no mistake, there are great moments in “Tomb Raider,” but across its 10-plus-hour, single-player game play, they are too few and far between, and they never really mesh into a memorable experience. Combat is fast and fluid, and Lara’s new bow is especially exciting to use. Graphically, the game is beautiful and its animation is solid. Not to mention it’s great to see a video game character who has long been an embarrassingly juvenile sex symbol be treated with the respect she deserves. Unfortunately for Lara, the new her is a bit too derivative and not quite as daring as her wild ponytail and fancy new bow would have you believe.

DG

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KOCH ● Cont. from 10

and coaches has helped him throughout the season.

“It gives you a support group more or less, and it can help nurture you and help push you forward and push you harder than you normally would on your own,” Koch said.

According to Goffi,

the makings of a great player have to do with perseverance and dedication, both of which he says Koch has. In addition, he said Koch is always willing to “get back out and practice immediately to get better so he never has to lose again, and that’s the quality of a champion.”

For Koch, the upcoming weekend is equally important for him individually and for the team, as its performances at No. 35 Auburn and No. 26 Alabama will be an opportunity to bounce back from the Gamecocks’ two losses last weekend.

“I’m just looking forward to some great competition ... to compete really well and play a great opponent,” Koch said.



Olivia Barthel / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomore Kyle Koch (right) and doubles partner Harry Menzies won their matches against Georgia and Tennessee.

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PHD • JORGE CHAM

THE SCENE

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SLEEPING? NO, NO... I'M MAKING SURE THE EQUATIONS ON THIS PAPER ARE RIGHT AND, UH, THE TYPEFACE THEY USED IS REALLY SMALL...

YAWNING? NO, NO, I'M JUST, UH, PRACTICING MY YOGA POSES. THIS ONE IS SUPPOSED TO BE REALLY GOOD FOR YOUR RESEARCH MUSCLES...

I'M, UM, TRYING TO INCREASE BLOOD FLOW TO CERTAIN AREAS OF MY THE BRAIN SO I CAN RUN THOSE TESTS YOU WANTED IN MY HEAD...

JORGE CHAM@THE STANFORD DAILY

phd.stanford.edu

HOROSCOPES

Aries

For the next four weeks, pay close attention to opportunities to achieve old objectives. Discipline is absolutely required, and the results are satisfying. Follow your heart.

Taurus

Allow yourself more quiet time this month. Finish old jobs and organize something. Completing a project takes less energy than constantly ignoring it. Solitude inspires you; bring along a sketchbook.

Gemini

Take advantage of your newly gained popularity to grow teamwork. You're getting hotter and you're lucky in love. Act responsibly but be sure to have fun, too.

Cancer

Nothing can stop you when you're on fire. You can get farther than you ever thought possible, now and all month. Consider new career choices and options. Stay true, and keep your word.

Leo

Make sure you know what you want. Don't rush a decision. Cut down on unproductive activities, unless they're about resting. Think it over, and choose.

Virgo

For the next month, you're especially great at managing money efficiently. Share advice. Friends are there for you. Decrease activities that could cause emotional stress. Communications flow with ease; launch when ready.

Libra

Partnerships grow stronger in the days ahead. Tie up any loose ends, and review the process for maximum efficiency. Work carefully, or learn something the hard way. But you'll learn.

Scorpio

There's more work coming in this month, and the pace is heating up. Travel and education tempt for the next few days, but keep focus on work priorities. Philosophical conversations after hours could get very interesting.

Sagittarius

Your energy level and attractiveness are high. You're lucky in love, and relationships flourish. Play and get creative; it's when you're having fun that the genius ideas arise.

Capricorn

Give home and family more attention. Domestic chores take precedence, your time makes a difference. Strengthen partnerships with conversation, ambiance and shared deliciousness. Build something cool together.

Aquarius

You have a passion for learning nowadays. Press forward with enthusiasm into a new study topic, while managing routine tasks. Balance work with exercise and time outside, along with healthy food.

Pisces

You could make a lot of money. You're focused and active, and your work speaks for itself. Keep it organized. Enjoy time off, too, as games get really fun. Ask a family member for financial advice.

TODAY

HELLZAPOPPIN CIRCUS SIDESHOW REVUE

9 p.m., \$12
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

"THE COLOR PURPLE"

8 p.m., \$22 general / \$16 students
Workshop Theatre, 1136 Bull St.

TOMORROW

RACHAEL SAGE, A FRAGILE TOMORROW, NICK YOUNG

8 p.m., \$10
Conundrum Music Hall, 626 Meeting St.

"LES MISERABLES"

7:30 p.m., \$46 – \$66
The Koger Center for the Arts, 1051 Greene St.

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

03/21/13

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ACROSS

1 Aaron of Cooperstown

5 Fast ender

9 Drink in a Dixie cup?

14 Lotion additive

15 ____ breve: 2/2 time

16 Get under one umbrella, so to speak

17 Filled to capacity

19 Panel member

20 Soaking and relaxed

21 One seeking repayment

23 Form W-4 fig.

24 NFL mike wearer

26 Ballpark fig.

27 Certain wildlife refuge

34 Annoying kid at the pool

36 Catch, as a podcast

37 Panache

38 What a fluid oz. measures

40 Half of MCDII

41 Geometry measure

44 Was in pain

47 Hit from the "Moulin Rouge!" soundtrack

49 Ending with Cray

50 CBS's Rather

51 Shakespearean exclamations

54 Ticking danger

59 Summer pitcherful

61 Stradivari's tutor

62 Spineless one

64 Star in the same constellation as Betelgeuse

65 Latin 101 infinitive

66 Collette of "United States of Tara"

67 Ouzo flavoring

68 White House maiden name

69 Name-dropper, often DOWN

1 Pilgrims to Mecca

2 Greenspan and Turing

3 Area of uncertainty

4 Held on to

5 Shakespeare's shortest tragedy

6 Yellowstone grazer

7 Guinness of "Star Wars"

8 Soup kitchen volunteer

9 Martial art emphasizing throws

10 Word on a dime

11 Pre-euro Italian currency

12 Harrow rival

13 Cheeky

18 New Age-y emanations

22 Words before "of rules"

25 Have a hunch

28 Like some barbecue sauce

29 Periscope part

30 Wrapped up

31 Hiking or biking

32 Nasty habit

33 Oklahoma city

34 Broker's order

35 Entreaty

39 Four-sided campus space

42 BlackBerry network choice

Solutions from 03/20/13

S	C	A	L	D	S	C	A	R	S	A	V	E		
E	L	M	O	S	A	R	L	O	T	W	I	X		
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S	M	A	L	L	T	O	W	N	G	I	R	L		
S	M	A	R	T		B	R	O		A	O	L		
W	E	E	W	I	L	L	I	E	W	I	N	K	I	E
A	L	V	A		T	O	T	S		D	E	E	R	E
P	L	E	X		D	U	S	T		S	E	D	E	R

43 Sainly ring

45 Made things harder for the lifeguard

46 Omate

48 Engine for missiles

52 Like some easy questions

53 Indian honorific

54 O'Hara plantation

55 "See you," in poker

56 Star-struck trio?

57 Hot times in the cité

58 Anka's "Eso ____"

60 Young newts

63 Source of some '60s trips

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Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

03/21/13

		5	3			4		
	8			6				
3	4	2					5	
9	2					3	4	
7	6			9		4		
				7			2	
3					8	5		

Level

1234

How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 03/20/13

1	5	8	7	6	2	9	3	4
6	4	9	1	3	8	2	7	5
2	7	3	4	9	5	8	1	6
9	6	1	5	8	3	7	4	2
3	8	4	9	2	7	6	5	1
7	2	5	6	4	1	3	9	8
4	1	6	8	7	9	5	2	3
8	9	2	3	5	4	1	6	7
5	3	7	2	1	6	4	8	9

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USC to face SDSU Saturday

Women's basketball coming off record-setting regular season with several individual honors

Paulina Berkovich
PBERKOVICH@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

As South Carolina prepares for its second straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament, experience is on the team's side.

But the No. 17 Gamecocks (24-7, 11-5 SEC) expect a number of challenges, in particular the altitude in Boulder, Colo., where they will take on the South Dakota State Jackrabbits (25-7, 14-2 Summit) Saturday afternoon.

Last year, USC exited the NCAA Tournament with a loss in the Sweet 16. But the Gamecocks defeated Purdue at its home court to advance out of the Round of 32. Still, coach Dawn Staley said experience alone will not carry the team against a talented SDSU squad.

"We're not going to solely rely on that," Staley said. "We have to show up and play."

The Gamecocks enter the tournament after one of the most successful regular seasons in their history. The team set a record with 11 conference wins, and several players received individual accolades.

Senior guard Ieasia Walker was honored as the SEC Defensive Player of the Year, the first such award in program history, and was named to the First Team All-SEC. Guard Tiffany Mitchell was named to the SEC All-Freshman team.

Staley said the program's successful year has given the Gamecocks extra motivation.

"Kids are tangible beings," Staley said. "Winning and being in the spotlight is something that they like to do. When they find that they're successful with things, it's a little easier to coach. It's a little easier to motivate. It's a little easier to wake up and practice every single day."

Mitchell admitted to being "a little nervous" to play in the high-pressure environment of the NCAA Tournament. But according to Staley, this year's team is good at focusing on one game at a time and staying in the moment.

Offense has been a concern for the Gamecocks throughout the season, with USC averaging just over 60 points per game. That total ranks 13th of 14 teams



Austin Price / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Tiffany Mitchell was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team. She said she is a little nervous for tournament play.

in the SEC. South Carolina also ranks 11th in field goal percentage and last in free-throw percentage.

"I don't know if we'll hit a shot or a free throw, but I know we'll defend and we'll disrupt a little bit," Staley said. "I think it's going to come down to us being able to knock down shots."

South Carolina has succeeded this season on the strength of its defense, which will face a challenge in a South Dakota State team Staley described as hard-nosed and gritty.

The Gamecocks have never faced the Jackrabbits, who also played in last year's NCAA Tournament but lost to Purdue in the first round. South Dakota State is currently riding a six-game winning streak and won the Summit League Championships earlier

this month.

Mitchell said the Gamecocks have not changed their game plan to accommodate the difficult playing conditions in Boulder.

"We can't get in Colorado shape in three days, but we're just going to try to play our game, and hopefully it doesn't affect us," Mitchell said.

The team has embraced the win-or-go-home nature of the tournament and is prepared to play to its strengths against SDSU.

"Hopefully we'll be able to do the things we've done all year long that made us successful," Staley said. "That's defend, rebound and hopefully score more points than they do."

DG

Bandy off to strong start

Junior sprinter places in 3 events at 1st outdoor meet of season

Nikki Leak
SPORTS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Junior Vashti Bandy got involved with track and field in seventh grade after a nudge from her mother, who ran track in high school.

"I've always been a fast runner, and I liked it," Bandy said. "I'm really competitive too, so I enjoyed it."

Bandy's outstanding career at USC has included being named an All-American three times. She began her outdoor season on a strong note last weekend at the Hurricane Invitational in Miami, taking fifth place in the 100-meter dash. The junior was also part of the 4x100, which took first place, and the 4x400 relay, which finished second.

Bandy said she was "pretty happy" with her performance in the Hurricane Invitational.

"That was actually the best opener I've had for the outdoor season," Bandy said. "It made me excited for the season. I know there's nowhere to go but up."

The junior has goals she would like to accomplish during the final years of her collegiate career, which include qualifying for regionals in individual events.

"It would be great to make it to Nationals, but I'm going to start with Regionals first," Bandy said.

She also said she would like to make it to nationals as a member of a relay team.

"I think we have a really great chance of placing at Nationals this year with some of the incoming freshmen," Bandy said.

The winning 4x100 team included two freshmen, Alexis Murphy and Tyler Brockington. Murphy also took sixth place in the 200-meter, and Brockington took fourth place in the 100 hurdles.



Courtesy of USC Athletics Media Relations

Junior Vashti Bandy said she was pretty happy with her performance in the Hurricane Invitational last weekend, where she was part of a winning relay.

Bandy regards winning the North Carolina state meet in high school as the greatest accomplishment of her track career. She said she enjoys competing as part of a team.

"In the relay you're running for each other, and it gives you extra adrenaline when you're running," Bandy said. "It's not always for me, it's for my teammates."

The junior brings forth a work ethic that helps the Gamecock women's team, which is No. 15 in the nation.

"I'm a hard worker," Bandy said. "I don't like quitting, even if I'm tired, I go all the way to the finish line."

But Bandy added that she tries to keep her teammates "down to earth" by being relaxed and laid back, reminding them that track

is a game.

The junior said she'd like to improve some physical aspects of her race, such as her strength and her starts, which she calls "the weakest points" of her race. But she also wants to improve the mental aspects of her running.

She said there were times last year when she put limitations on herself but has learned she is capable of doing anything she puts her mind to.

"I'm being more open to the idea of being a champion and being able to get to the next level," Bandy said. "The biggest part of my preparation is mental. If I had a bad performance the week before, I just have to let it go and move on to the next one."

DG

Koch consistent for men's tennis

Sophomore won 2 singles, 2 doubles matches last weekend

Khadijah Dennis
SPORTS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

As one of the Co-AgSouth Athletes of the Week, sophomore Kyle Koch's recent, consistent victories make him the underdog to watch out for on the men's tennis team.

Koch won two singles and two doubles matches against SEC opponents on the road last weekend.

Coach Josh Goffi said he has seen a steady improvement in Koch that he has never experienced from a player in his coaching career.

"Everything is starting to come together for Kyle. He's probably the hardest-working guy (on the team)," Goffi said. "He perseveres through losses, which is very tough to do, and losses hurt him, and that kind of fuels the fire for him to get better."

In a competitive matchup against No. 5 Georgia Sunday, Koch managed to score his first win over a ranked opponent in his career with a comeback victory over Hernus Pieters. In addition, he and Harry Menzies make up the No. 2 doubles team, which scored a second straight win over a ranked opponent.

But USC fell to Georgia, 5-2, after losing to No. 6 Tennessee 4-1 Friday. As the Gamecocks travel to Alabama this weekend, Goffi hopes to see the players showcase everything they've practiced to better their play.

"We were soft in a few spots. The team didn't get directly into their game plans," Goffi said. "Each guy has a very specific set of tools that we implement a very specific game plan for, so they just have to go out and execute it."

According to Goffi, the team needs to work on scoring solid doubles points, which he says the team lacked in previous matches. If the players can improve on that, they will put themselves in a better position to win.

"Once the match starts, it's on them, and it's on them at that point to have the will to win," Goffi said. "We can't really instill that in them, and the focus is necessary, obviously, in order to accomplish that goal."

As an individual, Koch aspires to be the best in all that he does and wants to help his team out as much as he possibly can just by simply playing for them.

"I just put in a lot of time on the court, preparing mentally and physically," Koch said. "It's a really big weekend for us, and this weekend could really set us up for a great year."

Koch added that the support from his teammates

KOCH ● 8